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TO HELP MY PEOPLE

LIBRARY

FEB 7 1978



EXPOSITORY LIBRARY MATERIAL

Type: 16mm, colour, sound
Indian Policing Program

Running Time: 45 minutes

Audience: Suited for viewing by
Indian communities,
police forces, govern-
ment/social agencies,
civic groups, schools,
universities, and the
general public.



Ontario

Ministry of the
Solicitor
General



Ontario Provincial Police



“TO HELP MY PEOPLE”

A Canadian film about the policing of Indian communities in Ontario.

Many of Ontario's 58,000 Indian citizens follow their own way of life, apart from the mainstream of society. This cultural isolation has created special law enforcement needs for them, which are now being met successfully through a unique policing program.

“To Help My People” documents the progress made by the native peoples of Ontario in policing their own Reserves, and the role of the Ontario Provincial Police in supporting this program through its Indian Policing Services Branch.

Filmed on location at several native communities across the Province, the movie traces the development of the Indian Police Program from its origin in 1975, when the Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General and Canada's Federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs agreed to provide joint funding for the service.

The program revolves around Indian band special constables policing their own Reserve communities. Through interviews with chiefs, special constables, and O.P.P. officers, the film shows the constables' day-to-day duties, which involve much of the same combination of community work, danger, and routine faced by police officers in large cities.

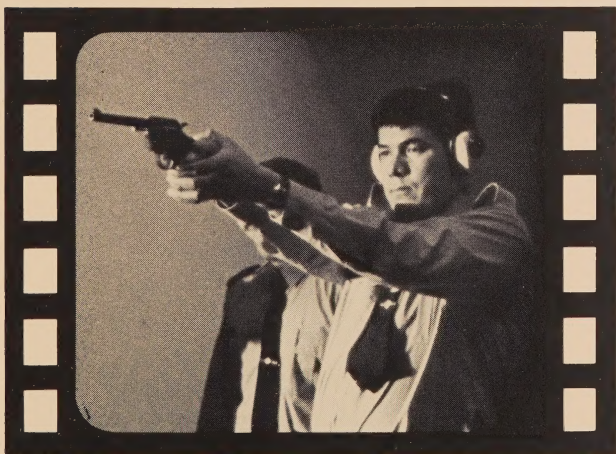
"To Help My People" also takes viewers to the O.P.P. Training and Development Centre and the Ontario Police College for an inside look at the rigorous training each band constable receives in law enforcement methods, interpretation of the law, self defence, and first aid.

In their own words, Indians describe the social problems and crime they face today and how misunderstandings arose when non-natives policed their communities. They also tell the story of how the presence of special constables, who are now accepted as important members of the community, has improved law enforcement and generated a heightened sense of pride and cooperation.

"To Help My People" also examines the increased presence of the O.P.P. in the far North, another vital aspect of the Indian Policing Services. The audience travels with O.P.P. aircraft on fly-in operations using specially trained volunteers to patrol remote settlements in Northern Ontario, one of the largest police beats in the world.

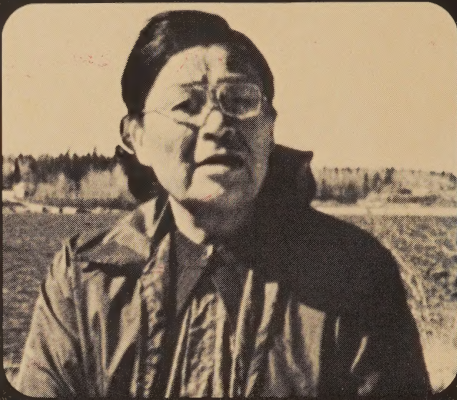
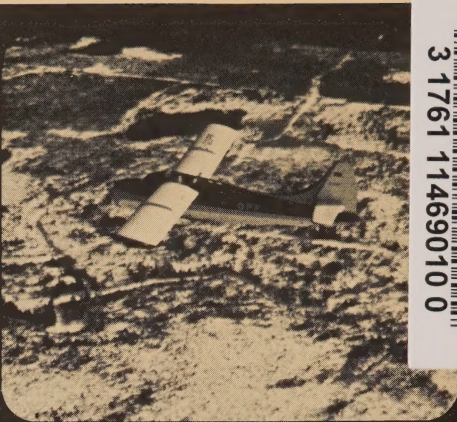
In portraying preventive policing and community relations in action, the film conveys the program's emphasis on alleviating many social problems facing the bands and the new respect for law that has grown on the Reserves.

Perhaps most important, "To Help My People" helps stimulate better understanding of our native societies, just as the Indian Policing Services Branch itself has fostered greater understanding between the Indians and the Ontario Provincial Police in working together.



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Films for showing to group audiences may be obtained by applying to:

The Commissioner,
Ontario Provincial Police,
90 Harbour Street,
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2S1
Tel. (416) 965-4308.

John P. MacBeth, Q.C.
Solicitor General

Alan A. Russell, Q.C.
Deputy Solicitor General

H. H. Graham,
Commissioner, O.P.P.



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